

ST. IVES (HUNTS)
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR 1947

THE RIDLEY PRESS.
ST. IVES, HUNTS.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District
of Saint Ives in the County of Huntingdon,
for the year ending 31st December, 1947

To the Chairman and Members of the Saint Ives
Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Pollard, and Gentlemen,

*I have the honour to present to you this report
on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the area for
the year 1947.*

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. R. GROVE

B.A., M.D., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

W. R. GROVE, M.D., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

G. H. PHIPPS

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

J. G. REESON

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

General Statistics

Population (middle 1947)	...	10,500
Area	...	45,911 acres
Rateable Value (April, 1947)	...	£49,241
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Net Product)	... ..	£190
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	3264

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births	M	F	Total	
(legitimate)	108	113	221	Birth-rate per 1000
(illegitimate)	5	11	16	of the estimated
	—	—	—	resident population 22.5
Total	113	124	237	

Still Births

(legitimate)	0	4	4	rate per 1000
(illegitimate)	0	0	0	population 0.38

Deaths	61	88	149	Death-rate per 1000
				of the estimated
				resident population 14.2

Deaths (Infants under one year of age)

	M	F	Total
Total	2	9	11
Legitimate	2	9	11
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Death-rate (Infants under one year of age)

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	46
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	21
„ „ Whooping Cough „ „	...	...	0
„ „ Measles „ „	...	...	0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	0
There were no deaths from maternal causes.			

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis of resp. system	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
Influenza	—	1
Acute Encephalitis	—	1
Cancer of buc. cav. & Oesoph. (m) uterus (f)	1	—
Cancer of stomach & Duodenum	5	2
Cancer of all other sites	5	8
Diabetes	—	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	6	8
Heart Disease	21	33
Other Diseases of the Circulatory system	2	9
Bronchitis	2	1
Pneumonia	1	5
Other respiratory diseases	1	1
Ulcer of stomach	1	—
Digestive diseases	1	1
Nephritis	2	3
Premature birth	1	3
Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis.	—	2
Suicide	—	1
Violent causes	2	3
All other causes	8	3
All Causes	61	88

As a comparison

the Birth-rate for Eng. and Wales during 1947 was	20.5	per 1000
Death-rate	12.0	„
Deaths under one year	41	„

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The provision of new houses and the detailed surveying of existing houses in the area continued to be the principal concern of the Health Department during the year.

The extension of the Scavenging Services to include the collection and disposal of Night Soil by direct labour from every village was also undertaken.

Details of the work carried out in connection with both Housing and Sanitary Services will be found under the appropriate headings in this report.

Those Health Services which are undertaken by the County Council as the Statutory Authority remained the same during the year and the usual co-operation between the County Council and the District Council was well maintained.

Full advantage was taken of the additional facilities provided by the Medical Research Council's Public Health Laboratory Services for the examination of samples of Milk, Water and Foodstuffs.

The Department was without an additional Inspector from February until July when Mr. J. G. Reeson was appointed, to replace Mr. W. G. Munday.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

1 (1) **Water.**—The consumption of water in the 12 parishes in the area supplied by the Ramsey and St. Ives and the Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Boards increased during the year. Further applications for main extensions to supply both domestic and agricultural premises were considered and the Council are seeking the necessary approvals to carry out extensions to the Fen Areas of the parishes on the north side of the district. It is considered that the Council would be in a better position to assess the economic and financial aspects of such extensions if the amount of grant likely to be available on such schemes under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, could be ascertained in the preliminary negotiations and before expenditure is incurred in Consultants' fees and the preparation of detailed plans and specifications. The quantities supplied to the Council by the respective Boards were as follows:

Ramsey and St. Ives	Chesterton and St. Ives
Joint Board	Joint Board
37,561,000 gallons	16,750,000 gallons

The water supplied by the Boards is chlorinated and 118 samples were taken from various points in the supply during the year. Of these, 12 were considered to be unsatisfactory, but, after flushing the mains at these points, subsequent samples were satisfactory.

Unfortunately the scheme for Hilton, Hemingford Abbots, Hemingford Grey and Houghton and Wyton was not commenced in 1947, as had been anticipated. With the completion of this scheme every village in the area will have an adequate supply of wholesome water available to the inhabitants.

There are still a number of shallow wells in use in the District, the majority of which are situated in those parishes still without a piped supply. Twenty-seven samples of water were taken from these and other private supplies and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge for examination. In 14 cases the supplies were considered to be unsatisfactory and, where possible, a supply was made available from the Council's mains. The majority of the unsatisfactory samples were taken from wells that had been flooded in the early part of the year.

Notices were exhibited in all the villages that had been flooded, advising the inhabitants to boil all water from shallow wells before using it for drinking or domestic purposes. Emergency measures were taken to deliver water to Houghton and Wyton and Hemingford Grey, until the flood waters had subsided and the wells emptied and cleansed.

SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIES IN EACH PARISH

Parish	Source of supply	Quantity	Quality	No. of houses in Parish	No. of houses connected to main	No. of Metered supplies
Bluntisham	Public mains	Adequate	Good	193	139	68
Broughton	" "	"	"	78	46	11
Bury	" "	"	"	127	101	24
Colne	" "	"	"	142	89	62
Earith	" "	"	"	167	143	24
Fenstanton	" "	"	"	269	203	43
Hemingford Abbots	Private wells	"	Poor	126	—	—
Hemingford Grey	Public mains	"	Good	298	57	3
	Private wells	"	Poor			
Hilton	Private wells	Insufficient	Poor	84	—	—
Holywell-cum-Needingworth	Public mains	Adequate	Good	212	105	23
Houghton & Wyton	Private wells	"	Poor	200	—	—
Oldhurst	Public mains	"	Good	39	25	11
Pidley-cum-Fenton	" "	"	"	116	85	19
Somersham	(with excep	tion of Fen	Area)			
	Public mains	Adequate	Good	446	240	54
Warboys	(with excep	tion of Fen	Area)			
	Public mains	Adequate	Good	601	403	69
Wistow	(with excep	tion of Fen	Area)			
	Public mains	Adequate	Good	97	80	19
Woodhurst	(with excep	tion of Fen	Area)			
	Public mains	Adequate	Good	72	39	11

1 (2) **Drainage and Sewerage.**—No progress has been made in the provision of Sewerage Schemes for the district and it seems unlikely that the Joint Scheme originally planned for St. Ives Borough and the Rural District will be developed.

The desirability and need of both this and other schemes are still as urgent as ever, but the heavy expenditure involved, the scarcity of labour, equipment and materials, make it impossible for the Council to proceed at present. As will be seen in that part of the report dealing with Public Cleansing,

the Council are fully aware of their responsibilities in this connection. Although unable to provide Sewcrage Schemes they have instituted a scheme for the collection of Night Soil for the whole of the district, which will be implemented in 1948 by the purchase of a further vehicle which will be used for cesspool emptying. The usual problem of the disposal of waste water was encountered and each case was dealt with as well as circumstances permitted. The ground water, notwithstanding the dry summer, remained at a high level and prevented the normal soaking away of waste water.

2 Rivers and Streams.—In March, the River Ouse overflowed its banks and the riverside villages were seriously flooded. Both the local and the national Press reported the conditions very fully and it is not proposed to discuss the floods in detail.

Voluntary organisations in the Borough and the Rural District did everything possible to alleviate the distress and hardship occasioned by the floods. Service establishments also assisted at a later date and large quantities of household articles were received through the Red Cross Organisation which were distributed to householders, and helped to replace ruined goods which were practically unobtainable in the shops. The River Great Ouse Catchment Board are carrying out extensive works on the river banks to prevent a repetition of this serious occurrence.

The maintenance and cleansing of certain Parish Brooks was undertaken during the year, the majority of the work being carried out by the County Agricultural Executive Committee, who contributed 50 per cent. of the cost of the work where land drainage was also involved.

3 (1) Closet Accommodation.—A number of applications were received during the year for the conversion of pail closets to water closets. In some cases it was found that it would be impossible to dispose of the Sewage without infringing the Byc Laws or creating a nuisance, and in such circumstances the necessary Building Licence was not granted.

Twelve new pail closets were erected after the service of informal notices on the owners; 9 pail closets were converted to water closets.

3 (2) Public Cleansing.

(a) Nightsoil Collections.—The Council carefully considered their future policy in this connection when it became apparent that it would be impossible to proceed with Sewerage Schemes in the immediate future. Furthermore, the experience of recent years showed that it would be almost impossible to engage contractors to carry out the work. With the aboli-

tion of Special Rates, it was thought that a comprehensive service, serving all the parishes, was the best method of dealing with the problem.

The Council therefore decided to carry out the work by direct labour and in addition to the Karrier Bantam Vehicle ordered in 1946 they placed an order for a Yorkshire Karrier 750 gallon tanker fitted with Nightsoil attachment.

The scheme was fully operative by November and every village in the district was given a weekly collection. The collections from Bluntisham, Earith and Somersham continued to be carried out by private contractors, but these contracts will be terminated in 1948.

Further details regarding the service will be available after it has been in operation for a year, but like the Refuse Collection service, it increases in scope and volume with every passing month.

(b) **Refuse Collection and Disposal.**—As anticipated in 1946 the service was further extended to give a weekly collection to every village in the district. This was made possible by the delivery of the Karrier Bantam ordered in 1946 which is utilised for both refuse and nightsoil collection.

The refuse is kept separate from Salvage and is disposed of at two worked-out gravel pits, one of which is situated at Needingworth and one at Somersham.

Although the service has been in operation for over two years the amount of refuse collected continues to increase and the capacity of the vehicles was taxed to the utmost.

The severe weather experienced in the early part of the year made it difficult to keep to the set schedule, but on only one day did the service fail. This was due to the fact that the private roads to both tips were impassable owing to snow drifts, and all available labour had to be concentrated on clearing these to dispose of refuse already collected.

(c) **Salvage.**—Salvage collections are carried out simultaneously with the refuse collections, the salvage being placed in a trailer specially built for this purpose.

Waste Paper, Textiles, and Household Bones formed the bulk of the materials but the amount collected diminished steadily throughout the year.

The refuse collection staff sorted out and baled the paper and textiles which were afterwards sold at controlled prices to local merchants.

Approximately 17 tons of materials were sold and realised the sum of £116.

The following table shows the weights of the more important materials collected.

		Tons	Cwts.	Qrts.
Scrap Iron	...	2	6	1
Paper	...	12	3	0
Bones	...		12	2
Textiles	...	1	7	0
Total weight		16	8	3

3 (3) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total number of Inspections for all purposes ... 1802

(a) HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Under Public Health and Housing Acts ... 733

Reinspections ... 114

Number of Preliminary Notices Served ... 89

Number of Preliminary Notices complied with ... 61

Number of Statutory Notices Served ... 1

Number of Statutory Notices complied with ... 1

The number of Housing Inspections includes those that were the subject of detailed examination for the purposes of the Housing Survey which was continued during the year.

It is regretted that the shortage of labour and materials was such that very little in the way of the reconditioning of cottage property could reasonably be required. The main factor in the deterioration of existing cottage property is undoubtedly the heavy cost of repairs, and until the Rent and Mortgage Restrictions Acts are amended to take into account such increased maintenance costs, all property subject to Rent Control under those Acts must get steadily worse. Practically the only cottages that have been extensively repaired and reconditioned are those that have been purchased with vacant possession and were occupied by the new owner.

A very large proportion of the repair works to cottage property was formerly carried out by the Owners as soon as their attention had been drawn to them, but this satisfactory situation is rapidly changing as the cost of the work increases and the Rents remain controlled at pre-war level.

(b) Inspections under the Factories Act, 1937.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	13	18	3	Nil
(2) Section 7	35	37	4	Nil
Total	48	55	7	Nil

The following defects were found as a result of the inspections.

Defect	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	—	—
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	4	3	—	4
Other Offences	2	2	2	—

The Factories and Bakehouses in the area were maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year and it was not necessary to institute any prosecutions for infringements against the Act.

(c) **Inspections under Regulations, etc.**

Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	115
Butchers' Premises	...	...	120
Slaughterhouses	...	...	12
Meat from outside District	...	...	7
Preserved Food	...	...	73
Offensive Trades	...	...	15
Shops	...	...	23
General Public Health Visits	...	...	107
Schools	...	...	2
Pumps, Wells	...	...	54
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	22
Dumps, Tips	...	...	88
After Infectious Diseases	...	...	29
Drains	...	...	105
Requisitioned Property	...	...	19
Salvage	...	...	56
Petroleum Stores	...	...	7
Site Inspections	...	...	3
Camp Sites	...	...	21
Ice Cream	...	...	5
Disinfestation	...	...	4
Scavenging	...	...	87
Miscellaneous	...	...	59
Total			1033

The total number of Inspections carried out under those Acts and Regulations which it is the duty of the Council to enforce was 1033, indicating the scope of the work carried out by the Department over a wide range of premises.

The infringements found were, generally speaking, of a minor character and 104 informal notices were served on the occupiers of various premises, requesting them to remedy defects or comply with the Regulations.

The continued shortage of houses is indicated by the number of visits made to Camp Sites which were occupied, when they were vacated by the Service Departments, by several families without consent. The Council have now undertaken the management of three such sites on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

3 (4) **Camping Sites.**—Three camping sites were licensed, two of which are situated close to the River Ouse and are used for the stationing of trailer caravans and similar structures during the summer months.

One new licence permitting the placing of a trailer-caravan was granted and the existing moveable dwellings were re-licensed for a further period of one year.

3 (5) **Shops & Offices**—(6) **Smoke Abatement**—(7) **Swimming Baths.**—There is nothing of interest to report under the above headings.

3 (8) **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**—After reporting the occurrence of odd cases of infestation during the past few years it is refreshing to state that no complaints of fresh infestations were received during the year. Furthermore, the treatment of premises that were reported as infested in previous years has been completely successful and as far as the Department is aware there are now no cases of infestation by bed bugs in the Area. “Zaldecide” and D.D.T. preparations are used for disinfestation.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

				Total cases notified	Admitted to hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	10	8	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	12	2	6
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
Typhoid	...	...	...	1	1	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	29	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	301	2	—
Jaundice	...	...	...	2	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	1	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year 153 children under 5 years, and 6 between 5-15 were immunised by the County Medical Officer of Health's Staff, and 17 over 5 received a secondary or reinforcing injection.

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIOD				New Cases				Deaths			
				Pulmonary		Non-pul.		Pulmonary		Non-pul.	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
35	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...				5	4	0	0	1	2	0	0

HOUSING

- 1 Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 733
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 847
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 494
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 528
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 63

(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	346
2	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:— Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers	74
3	Action under Statutory powers during the year:—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

Housing Act, 1936—Part iv.—Overcrowding:—

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	9
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	12
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	67
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	3
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	0
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	0
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	0

At the commencement of the year 18 houses had been completed under the Post-War Schemes, but building proceeded slowly. By the end of the year 64 houses had been completed and a further 50 were under construction. These houses are all of the traditional type and contain either 3 or 4 bedrooms.

The rents of all the houses owned by the Council are pooled and the rents for the three-bedroom Post-War houses were provisionally fixed at 11s. per week, exclusive of rates.

It was obvious, however, that owing to the increasing building costs and the heavy repair bills on the older houses, some revision of rents would be necessary in 1948.

The Housing Survey continued during the year and a further 494 houses were inspected and recorded, bringing the total to 1740. It was found that 261 houses, or 15 per cent. of the total inspected, were considered unfit for habitation; 608 houses, or 35 per cent., were considered satisfactory; the remaining 50 per cent. require minor repairs and improvements to bring them up to the standard fixed by the Joint County Committee.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PRIMARY INSPECTIONS

Parish	Number Inspected	Categories of Houses (the categories are described below)			
		1	2	3	4
Bluntisham	190	75	34	37	44
Broughton	18	2	16	—	—
Bury	76	23	23	18	12
Colne	133	82	20	19	12
Earith	162	78	33	34	17
Fenstanton	18	—	—	18	—
Hemingford Abbots	8	—	—	8	—
Hemingford Grey	12	—	—	12	—
Hilton	14	—	—	14	—
Houghton & Wyton	56	—	26	25	5
Holywell-cum- Needingworth	31	12	18	—	1
Oldhurst	26	3	9	12	2
Pidley-cum-Fenton	98	12	34	28	24
Somersham	398	149	93	82	74
Warboys	406	141	116	98	51
Wistow	30	18	12	—	—
Woodhurst	64	13	17	15	19
Total	1740	608	451	420	261

CATEGORY

CONDITIONS OF DWELLING

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Satisfactory in all respects. |
| 2 | Minor defects only. |
| 3 | Requiring repairs, structural alterations or improvement. |
| 4 | Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense. |

No Statutory action under the Housing Acts has been taken to deal with the unfit houses recorded under the Survey, as it is impossible to re-house the tenants, but consideration is given to the condition under which they are living, when Council houses become available.

The position with regard to overcrowding remained fairly static during the year. The Survey revealed three new cases but the number of occupants in many of the smaller cottages was found to be up to the maximum allowed under the Act, which means that they were living in very unsatisfactory conditions.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

Number of Registered Cowkeepers ...	92
„ „ Cowsheds and Dairies ...	94
„ „ Registered Retailers ...	27
„ „ Visits to Cowsheds and Dairies ...	115
„ „ Contraventions found ...	11
„ „ Contraventions remedied	8
„ „ Premises found to require cleansing ...	4
„ „ Premises found to require structural alterations	4

Two applications for the registration of new premises for the production of milk for sale by wholesale were received and granted by the Council. Both the applicants are producing Undesignated Milk. There are 9 “Accredited” and 7 “Tuberculin Tested” producers in the area, but the bulk of the “Tuberculin Tested” Milk is sold by wholesale.

However, two producer-retailers sell “Tuberculin Tested” Milk in the District, whilst a number of villages are supplied with either “Pasteurised” or “Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)” Milk in bottles and the bulk of this milk is processed within the area.

One Pasteurising Plant was licensed for the sale of milk under the special designations “Pasteurised” and “Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)”. The plant is designed for the high temperature short time process and is controlled automatically. Twenty-one samples of milk were taken from this plant and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination; 3 of these samples were unsatisfactory, but on each occasion subsequent samples satisfied the requirement of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1946, and successfully passed the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue reduction tests.

The samples of “Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)” and one sample of “Tuberculin Tested” Milk were found to be satisfactory.

The County Council is responsible for the administration of the Heat Treated Milk (Prescribed Test) Order and the reciprocal arrangements made in 1946 for co-operation between the two authorities continued during the year.

The Milk producers in the area maintained their premises in a satisfactory condition; a number of minor improvements that were suggested were carried out.

No excessive souring of Milk occurred during the prolonged period of warm weather experienced in the summer months, and the quantity of Milk rejected at the collecting centre was small.

The County Agricultural Executive Committee were notified in those cases where it was thought that their advisory staff could assist. Similarly, their officers consulted the Department before granting licences to applicants who wished to commence Milk Production.

(b) **Meat and other Foods.**

Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses ...	11
Number of Butchers' Shops	14
Visits to Butchers' Shops	120
Total weight of Meat condemned and destroyed	313 lbs.

There are no Government controlled Slaughterhouses in the area. The licensed slaughterhouses are only used for the occasional slaughter of pigs under licence from the Ministry of Food and casualty animals. These latter animals are then moved to the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse in St. Ives Borough for inspection and allocation.

The meat condemned as unfit was inspected in Butchers' Shops and subsequently destroyed.

Large quantities of other Foods were inspected and the following were condemned as unfit for human consumption. Wherever possible the foods condemned were utilised for animal feeding to minimise the loss.

36 Tins of Meat ...	101 lbs.
43 Tins of Vegetables	47 lbs.
13 Tins of Milk ...	13 lbs.
19 Tins of Fish ...	15 lbs.
Bacon	146 lbs.
Butter	12 lbs.
Sugar	42 lbs.
Tomatoes	28 lbs.
Dried Fruit ...	112 lbs.
Biscuits	28 lbs.
Cheese	62 lbs.
Smoked Fish ...	14 lbs.

(c) **Adulteration.**—The County Council normally administers those provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, relating to the adulteration of Food. No special circumstances arose where it was considered that action could, with advantage, be taken by the Council under the Act.

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**—Following reports of the pollution of a large Ballast Pit in the area where a number of dead fish were floating on the surface, samples of the water were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical and bacteriological examination. The results of the examination did not disclose the cause of the pollution and no further action was taken.

No cases of suspected Food Poisoning were notified during the year and no foodstuffs were submitted for examination.

